

REMARKS

In the present Amendment, Claim 7 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Entry of the Amendment after final is respectfully requested because, together with the Terminal Disclaimer filed concurrently, the Amendment to the claims places the present application in immediate condition for allowance by overcoming the standing rejections.

Upon entry of the Amendment, Claims 1-6 and 8 will be pending.

(a) Referring to page 2 of the Office Action, Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Without acquiescence in the merits of the rejection, to advance prosecution, Claim 7 has been canceled herein.

Withdrawal of the rejection is thus deemed to be proper and is respectfully requested.

(b) Claims 1-8 were provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claim 16 of copending Application No. 10/562,157.

Without conceding to merits of the rejection, to advance prosecution, Applicants are filing herewith a Terminal Disclaimer to obviate the rejection.

Withdrawal of the rejection is thus deemed to be proper and is respectfully requested.

(c) In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1-6 and 8 of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local, Washington, D.C., telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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